

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 101304
ORIGIN PM-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
SECDEF WASHDC/ISA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
HQ USAF WSHDC/XOXXI PRIORITY
JCS WASHDC PRIORITY 0000
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
HQ MAC SCOTT AFB IL/DO PRIORITY
HQ 21AF MCGUIRE AFB NJ/DO PRIORITY
HQ 22AF TRAVIS AFB CA/DO PRIORITY
JUSMG-MAAG MADRID SP PRIORITY
DET 4 435TAW RAMSTEIN AB GE PRIORITY
TORREJON CCP TORREJON AB SP PRIORITY

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PAGE 02 STATE 101304

TAGS: UNSC, OCLR

SUBJECT: AIRLIFT OF SENEGALESE UNIFIL CONTINGENT

1. THE UNITED NATIONS HAS ACCEPTED USG OFFER TO PROVIDE
NON-REIMBURSABLE INITIAL AIRLIFT OF VARIOUS NATIONAL
CONTINGENTS FOR THE UN INTERIM PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN LEBANON

(UNIFIL). IN RESPONSE TO UN REQUEST APPROVED BY DEPT AND DOD, THE MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND (MAC) HAS BEEN TASKED TO PROVIDE AIRLIFT SUPPORT FOR SENEGALESE TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT TO DAMASCUS. THE MOVEMENT WILL CONSIST OF TWELVE TO FIFTEEN C-141 AIRCRAFT MOVING TROOPS, AND APPROXIMATELY 250 TONS OF EQUIPMENT (SOME OF WHICH MAY BE OUTSIZED REQUIRING C-5 AIRCRAFT). MOVEMENT OF THE TROOPS IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON 26 APR 78, AND WILL PROBABLY CONSIST OF FOUR MISSIONS EACH DAY UNTIL THE AIRLIFT IS COMPLETE.

2. MAC PROPOSES TO ROUTE THE C-141 AIRCRAFT AS FOLLOWS:

DEPART -- ARRIVE -- PURPOSE

DAKAR TORREJON CREW CHANGE/REFUEL

TORREJON DAMASCUS OFFLOAD/REFUEL

(REVERSE ROUTING FOR RETURN FLIGHTS)

3. FOR DAKAR: TO INSURE SMOOTH ONLOAD OPERATIONS, MAC DESIRES TO SEND THREE-MAN ADVANCE TEAM TO DAKAR BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST AIRCRAFT TO COORDINATE WITH EMBASSY AND SENEGALESE OFFICIALS. A FOLLOW-ON TEAM OF 12-15 AIRLIFT CONTROL ELEMENT (ALCE) PERSONNEL WILL ARRIVE ABOARD THE FIRST AIRCRAFT. TEAM WILL REMAIN IN DAKAR FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 101304

THE DURATION OF THE OPERATION. EMBASSY SHOULD OBTAIN AIRPORT VISAS FOR TEAM ON ARRIVAL.

4. FOR MADRID: IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOS, EMBASSY SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT USG AIRLIFT IS BEING PROVIDED AS A SERVICE TO THE UN UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SC RESOLUTIONS 425 AND 426 (1978). WE FULLY RECOGNIZE THE APPLICABILITY OF THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION TO USG OPERATIONS PER SE, AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE GOS WILL AGREE THAT AN AIRLIFT OF THE MAGNITUDE CONTEMPLATED WOULD BE GREATLY SIMPLIFIED BY THE USE OF USAF FACILITIES IN SPAIN. THUS, WE WOULD ASK FOR BLANKET APPROVAL OF THE UNIFIL AIRLIFT. ADDITIONALLY, SINCE THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE REFUELING AND TROOPS CANNOT REMAIN ON BOARD DURING REFUELING OPERATIONS, REQUEST YOU ASK HOST OFFICIALS TO ESTABLISH A HOLDING AREA NEAR THE POINT WHERE REFUELINGS WILL TAKE PLACE. SINCE THE TROOPS WILL BE IN A HOLDING AREA, REQUEST WAIVER OF VISA AND CUSTOMS FORMALITIES. THE CARGO ON BOARD THE MILITARY AIRCRAFT WILL CONSIST PRIMARILY OF THE SENEGALESE SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION. ADDITIONAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT WILL PROBABLY INCLUDE RATIONS AND VEHICLES. REQUEST EMBASSY/DAO SEEK EXPEDITED APPROVAL OF DIPLOMATIC

CLEARANCE REQUESTS.

5. FOR BEIRUT: REQUEST YOU OBTAIN EXPEDITED DIPLOMATIC OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCES FOR LEBANON ENROUTE TO DAMASCUS. WE PRESUME THAT OVERFLIGHT RESTRICTION PUBLISHED IN THE USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE (FCG) WILL BE WAIVED FOR THIS OPERATION (PARA 2 CLASSIFIED SUPPLEMENT OF FCG ENTRY (SYRIA ENTRY)).

6. FOR DAMASCUS: MAC PLANS TO POSITION AN AIRLIFT CONTROL ELEMENT (ALCE) TEAM AT DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO CONDUCT OFFLOAD OPERATIONS. THE TEAM OF 18-25 PERSONNEL WILL ARRIVE ABOARD THE FIRST AIRCRAFT. THIS TEAM WILL REMAIN AT DAMASCUS FOR THE DURATION OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 STATE 101304

OPERATION. EMBASSY SHOULD OBTAIN AIRPORT VISAS FOR TEAM ON ARRIVAL. REQUEST YOU ALSO INITIATE ACTION TO OBTAIN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF JET FUEL AT DAMASCUS. EACH C-141 WOULD REQUIRE 70,000 LBS OF FUEL PRIOR TO DEPARTING. IF C-5 AIRCRAFT ARE USED THE REQUIREMENT WOULD

BE 125,000 LBS OF FUEL, BUT EACH C-5 WOULD REPLACE 2 C-141 MISSIONS.

7. FOR ALL: MAC WILL BE UNABLE TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC AIRCRAFT TAIL NUMBERS AND AIRCRAFT COMMANDERS' NAMES, AND INSTEAD WILL PROVIDE A PRIMARY AND SEVERAL ALTERNATES FOR BOTH AIRCRAFT AND AIRCRAFT COMMANDERS. FURTHER, THE CREWS WILL NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO OBTAIN VISAS. REQUEST YOU ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE CREWS WITH AIRPORT VISAS AS REQUIRED.

8. SHORT NOTICE AIRCRAFT DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY HQ USAF/XOXXI WITH OUR CONCURRENCE AND THAT OF OASD/ISA.

9. THIS MESSAGE CONSTITUTES OASD/ISA AND STATE DEPT APPROVAL FOR ALL OF ABOVE MENTION TRAVEL AS REQUIRED BY USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE.
CHRISTOPHER

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